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'NO PROGRESS' IN MEXICO CITY TUNA MEETING

PA201811 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jan 79 PA

[Report by Costa Rican Vice Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus on the results of the 15-18 January Mexico City meeting of tuna-fishing countries--recorded]

[Text] The meeting we just held in Mexico from Monday until yesterday is the second plenipotentiary meeting on this matter. It is the most important meeting since the San Jose meeting in September 1977. It was attended by various countries of the region: Canada, Mexico, the United States, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and the southern countries which, as we all know, hold a different stand from ours. It is the so-called territorialist stand on the 200-mile limit.

Other industrialized countries like Japan and France participated. Spain sent an observer to the meeting.

I would say that the meeting was very important because, first, we had the opportunity to express our stand before a large number of countries that had not participated before. It is important for the United States and other participating countries to learn of the more stringent stand taken by the southern countries, which we naturally respect, so that we can arrive at an agreement on the Mexico-Costa Rica stand.

As we all know, the debate is no longer about principles. These have been discussed in previous meetings. We are now discussing the application of principles. On this matter, it is unfortunate that there has been no progress. The United States representatives maintained the stand that although they recognize the historical catch they do not want to go beyond the 57 percent they offered in San Jose. This is unacceptable to Costa Rica.

Mexico and Costa Rica hoped to reach an agreement which by increasing percentages starting from 60 percent would reach 68 [words indistinct], which is agreeable to us, since it is really what is being fished in our waters.

The conference concluded by acknowledging the proposals presented. We signed no agreements because there was no agreement reached on the percentages, as I said. Mexico and Costa Rica will continue promoting this policy, not only in our region, but also in all the southern littoral countries.

TALKS WITH U.K. ON MALVINAS ISLANDS SET FOR MARCH

PY231205 Buenos Aires LA RAZON in Spanish 20 Jan 79 p 4 PY

[Excerpts] The first round of talks between Argentina and the United Kingdom concerning the return of the Malvinas Islands to Argentina will take place at the end of March, according to a reliable source. So far, no site has been set for this round of talks.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS FORMER SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTER

PY231728 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2240 GMT 22 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jan (TELAM)--Argentine Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor held a meeting today with former Social Welfare Minister Francisco Manrique, who informed him that in answer to an invitation extended to him by the UK Government, he will visit North Sea oil wells and nuclear plants, and that during his visit he will also hold talks with members of the House of Commons.

At the end of the meeting, which lasted for 1 1/2 hours, Manrique told journalists that "the meeting with foreign minister Pastor was frank, open and encouraging." Answering a question, he said that "I was pleased because I saw the realistic and active manner with which Argentine foreign policy is being carried out."

He defined the present leadership at the Foreign Ministry as being "dignified and specific." He added that "it would be ideal if full understanding were achieved with neighboring countries instead of continuing well-known disputes. "Manrique added that in his meeting with Pastor they discussed several subjects, among them "the issues between Chile and Brazil, and they also reviewed everything related to Argentine relations with the United Kingdom."

BRIEFS

PRISONERS RELEASED--Buenos Aires, 20 Jan (TELAM)--The Interior Ministry reported today that between 15 and 19 January the national executive ordered the release of 25 persons, and 5 others were placed on parole in accordance with the provisions of Law 21,650. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2145 GMT 19 Jan 79 PY]

SECT MEMBERS ARRESTED--San Juan, 19 Jan (NA)--According to reports from police sources, 15 members of an evangelistic religious sect have been arrested and placed at the disposal of trial judge Felix Severo Martinez, charged with alleged illegal practice of medicine. The arrests were made during a police operation in Mediaga, 60 km south of this city, after a report was received that the members of the evangelistic sect practice "quackery." A police spokesman indicated that the prisoners had come to town to "evangelize" and for this they prayed and sang in the streets until they opened a place where they engaged in "curing" the sick by laying hands on them and by passing hands over their foreheads. These latter developments gave rise to police intervention with the above mentioned results. [Text] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2095 GMT 19 Jan 79 PY]

FOREIGN LOAN APPROVED--The national executive branch has approved a $120 million loan for the state water and power enterprise from several foreign banks in which the Lloyds Bank International, Limited, will act as an agent. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Jan 79 p 4 PY]

PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ELECTORAL COURT APPOINTED

PY200040 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 19 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Marcelo Cespedes, an expert in statistics who was vice president of the National Electoral Court during last year's elections under the leadership of Julio Mantilla, will organize the general elections to be held in July. The government has appointed him as representative of the legislative branch to the court. He will succeed Mantilla as president of the National Electoral Court.

Marcelo Cespedes was vice president of this organization last year and his activities at the time were severely criticized by political parties as a result of the electoral fraud which forced the court to annul the elections.

Cespedes' appointment was not well received here today by political leaders who said that they would study the situation created by his appointment to the organization which will be in charge of conducting the elections. Some political sectors have already stated that they will issue their opinions on the appointment during the next few hours. In other words, today, the day of Cespedes' appointment, there were already bad political reactions.

INTERIOR MINISTER COMMENTS ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS

PY231652 La Paz Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0913 GMT 23 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Interior Minister Raul Lopez Leyton has said that Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez has every right to participate in the next general elections in July. He added that nobody will be barred from the coming elections and that those who feel themselves capable will be able to run as candidates.

He stressed that the military junta will in no way favor certain political sectors and that we are therefore very much interested in enabling everyone to participate in the upcoming elections. He added: If there is anything the Bolivian people can be sure of, it is that the armed forces will hand over power in August to the person who is chosen in the July elections.

He also said that the success of the elections depends on the political parties, because the armed forces are doing their utmost for the Bolivian people to enter into the democratization process.

He stated that the military government junta feels that a coup d'etat is very dangerous for the country. It would be a regressive event for Bolivians and very harmful to plans for democratization. This remark was made when he commented on rumors and speculations that a subversive plot is being planned in Bolivia. He asserted, however, that all this wave of speculation has subsided by 90 percent, but he added that the government will not permit the schedule of activities drawn up by the present government to be upset in any way whatever.

He further added that the Bolivian people desire democratization and that the government will therefore not permit the program to be upset, much less any coups, which are wholly damaging.

Minister Lopez Leyton had a meeting with representatives of private business in Cochabamba for the purpose of providing details on the democratization process which the military government junta is promoting, and of denying alleged commitments to certain political fronts. He said: This is done in an attempt to obtain better contacts with the sectors of the citizenry so that the democratization process is truly understood.

He noted that Cochabamba Department's federation of private businessmen showed agreement with the constitutionalization of the country and has not made any important suggestions for the framework of the democratization of the nation.

GOVERNMENT SEEKS ITC TIN PRICE INCREASE

PY191558 La Paz Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0742 GMT 19 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Bolivia has asked the International Tin Council [ITC] to renegotiate the fifth agreement signed by that organization so that the price scale can be raised.

The opinion of Bolivia was presented at the opening of the 12th ITC regular session, which has been underway in London since last Tuesday, by Bolivian Mining and Metallurgical Minister Gen Jorge Echazu.

General Echazu said that the Bolivian Government is concerned because our country depends on tin, which is its main export product and its economic mainstay.

After pointing out that the agreement did not equitably solve the problems of producing countries vis-a-vis consumer countries, the Bolivian mining minister recalled that Bolivia had agreed, for the sake of solidarity with other producing countries, to ratify the agreement, acting in good faith and believing that the agreement's clauses would be fully complied with.

The Bolivian mining minister stressed the fact that once more the stipulations of an agreement had been disregarded, this time with the creation of a new committee--the economic and price revision panel--to act as a technical body for the evaluation of factors affecting the tin industry and market and afterwards making concrete recommendations for the revision of the price scale.

The minister said that, judging from what has happened so far, the conclusion can certainly be drawn that the ineffectiveness of the fifth agreement and its mechanisms is traceable to the entry of the United States into the ITC and that the United States has therein acted as an obstacle to the functions and fulfillment of the objectives of that organization, adding that with its policy of sales of strategic stockpiles, the United States hurts the international market by bringing about a deterioration of prices.

That situation, Minister Echazu said, forces producing countries into protecting their minimum prices by making greater contributions to the stabilization of the ITC's stockpiles and, worse yet, by going into periods of export control, all of which seriously damage the economies of producing countries.

Therefore, the Bolivian mining minister proposed that the results obtained through the additional contributions be examined and that the ITC call for a renegotiation conference to modify, either entirely or partially, the agreement now in force.

The minister also suggested that prices be raised to the level recommended in the report of the economic panel. He said that this should be done because the current price scale is unrealistic, with its top price below the one prevailing in the international market, and that this should be done before the United States announces sales from its stockpiles, thus driving prices down, to the detriment of producing countries.

JORNAL DO BRASIL COMMENTS ON FIGUEIREDO SPEECH

PY231837 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Jan 79 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Vote of Confidence"]

[Excerpts] In introducing his ministers, President-elect Joao Baptista de Figueiredo gave a simple and direct description of what he wants his administration to be. His simple words reflected a frankness which must appeal to those with whom he will work within a new administrative and political framework and the citizens whom he addressed in the manner of a commitment.

Rarely before, and never since 1964, had a leader been so clear in giving his word of honor to tear down a mechanism which in itself hampers everything that could represent progress or political maturity toward a democratic pattern which can only exist if a sense of responsibility stems from its being exercised, a responsibility which would thus be voluntary and not compulsory. The judges of this democracy must be its beneficiaries, and not those who lose nothing through the lack of freedom.

Good governments are those which know when to change attitudes when they become aware of the growing distance between them and their people. Every government has a moral commitment toward its people which material promises cannot replace. The administration which is now being assembled in line with a precise course of action is preparing to give examples rather than to ask for sacrifices and understanding as a way to obtain support to face the accrued difficulties which both it and we ourselves have inherited.

We have finally received some indication that bureaucracy will no longer be ruled by illusions: the announcement by the future president of the nation that new projects--any new project--will be implemented only after careful studies which will confirm their priority based on timeliness, convenience, availability of resources, and an estimate of expenditures.

This will be an "absolute rule which will apply universally." Thus, the nation will be ready to accept "bitter decisions" as a sacrifice which is less painful than disillusionment. After a lengthy period of political starvation without any true participation we are aware that we must start anew. Crude realism is preferable to unrealistic and immaterial rhetoric.

NEW COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER DISAVOWS CENSORSHIP

PY222101 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Jan 79 p 2 PY

[Text]--Said Farhat, future chief of the Social Communications Secretariat, stated yesterday that apprehensions regarding the future Social Communications Secretariat "are unfounded, because it represents an opening and there is no reason to suppose that it involves a closing. Truly, General Figueiredo feels that the government has the obligation of reporting to the people everything he does and why he does it, how much it costs, where the money comes from, and what benefit the people can expect."

He added that "government duty corresponds to the right of the people to know about everything." He said that censorship pertains to public entertainment, which the government does not want to modify." He said that "censorship is alien to the Social Communications Secretariat. I will not accept it." He also stated that his secretariat will not centralize government advertising expenses. "It will only seek unity of subjects. There is no intention of centralizing all publication funds."

Mr Farhat referred to another role of the new secretariat that of promoting patriotism and a community-oriented life, "without resorting to seeking followers for the government or for the parties," so that the people may participate more in the national life. He cited electoral omissions, casting blank or null votes as examples of the need for greater popular participation. He said that the struggle against inflation, for instance, will require the participation of all and that, therefore, it is necessary to implement motivation, without overlooking, of course, the economic measures which will be taken.

The Social Communications Secretariat intends to avoid bad information, partial information or a conflict of information among the various government organizations. "We seek results through greater communication, more information, greater speed and more profound information. It is the lack of information which gives rise to misunderstandings and false rumors." He said that there is no decision yet on the structure of the secretariat, and denied that DENTEL [National Telecommunications Department] "would be taken out of the Communications Ministry; there is no thought of it."

BRIEFS

AGREEMENTS RATIFIED--Brasilia, 15 Jan (AFP)--Brazil and Peru exchanged ratifications today on two agreements, one on reciprocal assistance for the repression of illegal drug trafficking and another on utilization of coastal stations and ships in the Amazon region. Simultaneously, an exchange of ratifications on an agreement on river transport and products supply took place in Lima. All these agreements were signed between the two countries by Presidents Ernesto Geisel and Francisco Morales Bermudez in December 1976. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0034 GMT 16 Jan 79 PY]

NEW DAILY NEWSPAPER--Salvador (O GLOBO)--CORREIO DA BAHIA, the fifth daily newspaper of Salvador, Bahia State, began circulation yesterday throughout the state. The CORREIO DA BAHIA has a staff of 62 journalists, headed by chief editor Sergio Toniello. The administrative council is made up of Luis Adurado Maron de Magalhaes, Kleber Pacheco de Oliveira and Wilson Maron. The first issue circulated with a total of 92 pages, plus a sports section in tabloid form. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 16 Jan 79 p 1 PY]

GOLD MINE--The gold mine discovered in Araci, 210 km from Salvador, Bahia State, estimated at 100 tons, could be the largest in the country. The proportion of gold found in drilling up to 2.5 meters was 8.5 grams per ton, while geologists expect to find 9.5 grams in drilling at 3.5 meters. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 16 Jan 79 p 1 PY]

URANIUM SHIPMENT--The third shipment of enriched uranium for the Angra 1 nuclear plant being built by the Westinghouse Company arrived yesterday from the United States. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 19 Jan 79 PY]

POLISH COMMERCIAL OFFICE--Porto Algre--The Polish Government today opened a commercial office here whose main objective will be to arrange a joint venture to exploit coal and copper deposits in Rio Grande do Sul, and also to increase trade between this Brazilian state and Poland. [Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 29 Jan 79 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Jose Veloso Filho, 28 and single, has been arrested with 1 kg of pure cocaine by the Sao Paulo police of the criminal investigations department. With the information provided by Veloso, the police arrested other drug traffickers and addicts in Sao Paulo. Veloso had bought the cocaine in San Matias village in Bolivia. He was followed and photographed by investigations police of the operations and information service. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Jan 79 p 28 PY]

PINOCHET HOLDS MEETING WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR

PY232108 Paris AFP in Spanish 1821 GMT 23 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 23 Jan (AFP)--President Augusto Pinochet today received in a special meeting here former Chilean ambassador to Lima Francisco Bulnes, who was declared persona non grata by the Peruvian Government.

The meeting lasted an hour and Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos also participated in the meeting.

The diplomat briefed the president on the events regarding the crisis of relations which took place on Saturday when government officials in Lima asked him to leave the country, due to reports of Chilean espionage.

"I am in good spirit because when the conscience is calm; the spirit is also in good condition," Bulnes told the reporters at the end of the meeting.

He declined, however, to make any judgement on the incident, "because I do not want to add more fuel to the fire started by the Peruvian Government."

NEWSPAPERS COMMENT ON AMBASSADOR BULNES' EXPULSION

PY221835 Paris AFP in Spanish 1431 GMT 22 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 22 Jan (AFP)--The Chilean press today emphasized the need to overcome the crisis which arose this weekend in its diplomatic relations with Peru.

For the second consecutive day newspaper headlines and feature stories reported on repercussions of the incident which reached its peak yesterday with the arrival of Francisco Bulnes, the former Chilean ambassador in Lima, in Santiago as a result of his being declared persona non grata by the government of the neighboring country.

In an editorial entitled "Peru's Drastic Reaction," the newspaper EL MERCURIO analyzed the espionage accusations made against Chile which caused the incident, the execution of Peruvian non-commissioned officer Julio Vargas because of his connection with the accusations, and the recall of the Peruvian ambassador in Santiago, Guillermo Arbulu.

The article states: In this case, Peru has acted strictly within international law and, in the exercise of its rights, has requested the withdrawal of Ambassador Bulnes.

This reaction cannot be criticized in itself, but it should be recognized as extreme, added the dean of the Chilean press. In reference to the espionage cases involving four members of the embassy, EL MERCURIO wrote that the Chilean authorities are investigating the situation and if guilty parties are found, they will be severely punished. The commentary added that Chilean public opinion categorically condemns this type of action.

The government newspaper EL CRONISTA also published an editorial in which it says that the execution of non-commissioned officer Julio Vargas, which took place on Saturday, is not necessarily proof that there were clandestine and nefarious operations involving Chileans.

EL CRONISTA emphasized the personal and professional virtues of former Ambassador Bulnes, whom the paper believes to be a victim of circumstances.

Ambassador Bulnes was the scapegoat, according to the popular morning newspaper LA TERCERA DE LA HORA's front page headline. The lastest reports (from the EL MERCURIO chain) agree with this opinion, indicating that Bulnes made every effort and took every action to try to make relations between the two countries as good as possible.

In general, the first press analyses published here after the weekend conflict insisted on the fact that it is necessary that every effort be made to prevent relations with Peru from deteriorating further.

OUSTER OF ENVOY BY PERU BLAMED ON INTERNAL PROBLEMS

FY221801 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 22 Jan 79 FY

[Rafael Kistainer commentary]

[Excerpts] Well, as you can see, we solve one problem and another one appears. It is as if somebody was planning an economic and diplomatic offensive against Chile and we certainly have a pretty good idea of who is responsible for this activity.

Since last Saturday we have been confronting a very delicate situation with our neighbors to the north. This situation arises 2 weeks after the problem with Argentina was solved through the mediation of the pope's enovy, Cardinal Antonio Samore.

Suddenly, the Peruvians decided to declare Chilean Ambassador Francisco Bulnes persona non grata. Ambassador Bulnes arrived in Santiago early yesterday without issuing any statement.

There are many strange deeds in all of this. In the first place there is a coincidence with the date itself. We might say that 140 years later, exactly on the same day, the Peruvians commemorated the battle of Yungay in a very unusual manner. On 20 January 1839 the direct ancestor of Ambassador Bulnes, Gen Manuel Bulnes, defeated the Peruvian-Bolivian forces at the battle of Yungay.

We first learned [from the press] in Santiago that Ambassador Bulnes had been declared persona non grata due to those strange things which sometimes happen in Peru. The Foreign Ministry in Lima first informed the press and foreign news agencies and only later the interested party. That is, we learned of the event in Santiago before Ambassador Bulnes, who was at his residence in Lima. He was officially notified about the decision only on Saturday afternoon.

Why did this happen? We must divide the issue in two parts: The formal and the real aspect.

The formal aspect, ladies and gentlemen, is that in December four Chilean Navy personnel and two Chilean Navy officers were expelled from Peru for alleged involvement in espionage activity. The four individuals were not Chilean diplomats and the two navy officers are being investigated in Chile because if they were indeed responsible for these activities they will be punished accordingly.

Furthermore, on the same day that the Peruvian Government announced the expulsion of Ambassador Bulnes from Lima, Peruvian authorities ordered the execution of non-commissioned officer Julio Vargas Garayar, who was charged, according to unofficial reports, since the entire proceeding against him was carried out in complete secrecy, with selling secrets of the La Jolla air base located in southern Peru to Chilean representatives. Press reports state from unofficial sources that Vargas reportedly sold these secrets for $380.

We must note that in December, Chile admitted the possibility that these deeds may have been carried out and as Chilean Government spokesmen have stated more than once, these deeds are not part of Chile's official policy. Moreover, these deeds do not result from an order of the Chilean Armed Forces high command but rather are the result of regrettable individual initiatives which are being investigated to establish responsibility and the proper punishment.

Gen Herman Brady, who maintains a personal friendship with top Peruvian officials in both the government and the armed forces, was sent to Peru to explain the case. General Brady reasserted in his visit to Lima the same thing I have stated: that this is not an aspect of the Chilean Government's official policy; that Chile is interested in maintaining friendly relations with Peru and that these individual initiatives will be investigated and punished if necessary. This is the formal aspect. Now we have to review what we might call the unofficial aspect, the real issue of this affair.

When a country is facing a foreign debt of $8 billion; when a nation is confronting a [word indistinct] socio-economic process; when it barely escaped a general revolutionary strike; and when (?unemployment), inflation and all the consequences of a tight economic situation are becoming a heavy burden on the people, the authorities of this nation tend to create foreign situations to divert the people's attention. They try to create a foreign issue to distract the people from their domestic problems and to unite the people against this alleged foreign aggressor. This is an old formula which has been used for centuries and is therefore quite well-known.

The same thing happens periodically in Bolivia. When there is unrest in Bolivia, when a government is threatened--we must note that Bolivia has had 150 coups d'etat since its independence--when the general situation deteriorates, the cry to regain the access to the sea lost to Chile automatically appears. Thus the entire population is mobilized, although each time in smaller numbers since it has been repeated so many times that eventually even those less informed are aware of the real objectives of the campaign.

To prove that something similar is happening in Peru, Peruvians did not only expel Ambassador Bulnes but this past weekend also became involved in a confrontation with Ecuador.

Through all this it seems obvious that the Peruvian Government is trying to apply the traditional formula of creating a foreign front to distract the entire country from its domestic problems which are basically economic and political.

We could have never imagined that the value of the Peruvian sol would be 200 soles per dollar, that the economic situation in Peru would produce an inflation rate of over 70 percent, that the political situation is not precisely that clear, and particularly we could have never imagined that we were going to have these kinds of problems over alleged espionage activities which would lead to such a severe decision as that of declaring Ambassador Francisco Bulnes persona non grata.

LA TERCERA COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH PERU

PY231813 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1508 GMT 23 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 23 Jan (LATIN)--The newspaper LA TERCERA stated today that the Chilean Government should adopt strong measures to avoid recurrence of the regrettable incidents which took place recently in Peru. After reviewing the situation created by alleged individual espionage activities carried out by Chilean military officers, the newspaper notes in its editorial that "there is no reason whatsoever which justifies endangering excellent relations achieved through patient military and diplomatic work."

The editorial adds: "It is now appropriate to continue confronting the present with serenity. Chile understands the sovereign decision by Peruvian authorities regarding our ambassador. Moreover, the Peruvian Foreign Ministry has explained that it does not seek a definite break in its relations with Chile." It immediately adds: "This situation then must be followed by a new period in which intelligent diplomatic work must be carried out with the object of reestablishing those strong diplomatic ties which have deteriorated."

The editorial notes that "the Chilean and Peruvian nations must walk and work together for the common destiny of Latin America. They should only struggle to achieve development and welfare for their nations and not start a fratricidal war between them."

KISTAINER COMMENTARY: NATION'S POWER IS GROWING

PY231507 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 23 Jan 79

[Rafael Kistainer commentary]

[Text] The Peruvian affair is the last chapter in the long novel of campaigns against Chile. We must admit that these campaigns have a good orchestrater. This is not merely a persecution complex as a review of events will reveal how Chile, since the coming to power of the military government on 11 September 1973, has been the object of a despicable campaign which, in addition to being hostile, has involved slander to discredit the military government.

Reviewing these events of the past 5 years, we have the report issued by the UN Human Rights Commission, the threat of a boycott, the Townley affair, which is becoming more and more interesting as days go by, the Argentine pressures on Chile's southern borders, and now this sudden attack from Peru, which is derived from a situation believed to have been completely overcome.

All of us will agree that these things are not mere coincidence. These events are orchestrated, managed and promoted in such a manner that they will surge one after the other, and if possible simultaneously.

Furthermore, I will say something which is common knowledge in official circles, and I hope this does not mean [word indistinct]. Studies have been made in several foreign ministries of Latin American countries which explain why Chile is being pressured within its continental sphere. Let us disregard the Marxist campaign against us, the human rights issue, the boycott and other issues which are managed either from Moscow or Washington. Let us limit ourselves to those problems which lie within Latin American affairs and which we are a part of despite ourselves.

These studies state in simple terms that Chile has neighbors which have studied our activities over these past 5 years and have concluded that Chile is about to become a Latin American power, and therefore Chile must be stopped right now and not 5 or 10 years from now when it will be a strong and organized country fully capable of developing our own undertakings and our own policy.

This development which Chile is experiencing should be no surprise to anyone since things which are viewed from the outside look different. All these things go unnoticed to us since we have been part of the process and since we have suffered with the economic recovery progress because it was carried out at the expense of the entire Chilean people, who are giving their unconditional support to a government which has proved to be efficient and honest.

But if we realize that 5 years ago we had an inflation rate of 750 percent, which was decreased to 30 percent in 1978, and will be decreased to 15 percent in 1979, then it is obvious that this reflects economic progress which can only be compared to the postwar German miracle. If we look back and remember that by the end of 1973 the Central Bank did not have a single dollar in our reserves and that the Allende Government even thought of depositing copper ingots to have something of value at the bank, and if we compare this to our present situation, in which we have $1.5 billion in reserves and our trade has increased to $2.5 billion per year, but copper exports total half of this amount because we have diversified our trade, and if we study our balance of trade which left us with a profit of $600 million, and if we see how the international copper price continues to increase over $0.77 per pound, it is obvious that Chile is beginning to recover and is beginning to get its feet on the ground to undertake a speedy march toward achieving development and prosperity, which is something no one can deny.

This is why they are beginning to watch us very carefully and with a lot of envy. It is almost certain that there will be more instances than those we have reviewed. There is a famous quote from Don Quixote which we want to repeat at this time, but without meaning any harm: They growl at us, Sancho, a sign that we are riding onwards [Ladran los perros, Sancho, senal que cabalgamos].

ISRAELI DEFENSE OFFICIAL DISCUSSES ARMS SALES

PY232331 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1744 GMT 23 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 23 Jan (LATIN)--The Israeli under secretary of defense, Mordechai Zipori, admitted that Israel is willing to give military advice and provide military equipment to Chile, according to EL MERCURIO.

Zipori, who is also a deputy of the Likud Party and a veteran of six wars, ended a 4-day private visit here last night after a tour through Latin America which included Mexico, Brazil, Colombia and Argentina.

During his brief stay in this capital, Zipori met with the Chilean defense minister, Lt.Gen Raul Benavides; the deputy commander of the army, Vice Adm Cristian Storaker.

During an exclusive interview with EL MERCURIO, Zapori said that the tour was aimed at "strengthening friendship and contacts with the countries with which we have good relations, including Chile."

He emphasized that his visit to this country "was strictly one of friendship and not of business," but acknowledged that during his conversations with the Chilean military chiefs, "I assured them that we are willing to provide them with equipment and advice according to their needs."

He explained that Israel produces three types of airplanes, two of multiple use (the West-Wind and the Arava) and one combat plane (the Kfir).

He explained: "We must admit that we are looking for a market for these products, but regarding the combat plane, we need the authorization of the United States for each sale because it has American components."

Zipori said that his visit to Argentina and Chile was to evaluate the military situation of each country in comparison with its neighbor but indicated that "all the countries I have visited on this tour are on the same side within this great division of the world in two blocks, therefore I hope that there will not be a military confrontation between them because this would be absurd."

Zipori said, however, that in order for the two neighboring countries not to have any interest in going to war, "they must be strong and be prepared for deterrence."

Regarding the Chilean-Argentine southern border conflict, he said: "I believe that the Chilean military chiefs have a strong desire for peace and they not only want it but are ready to defend it."

He pointed out that during his conversations with Chilean military officials, "matters regarding the world political situation, the problems of the Middle East and some common aspects of the situations of Chile and Israel were discussed, since both countries have tensions along their borders."

1,900 ANTITANK ROCKETS IMPORTED FROM FRG

PY231737 Paris AFP in Spanish 1635 GMT 23 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Hamburg, 23 Jan (AFP)--Thursday's issue of STERN magazine reveals that Chile imported at least 1,900 antitank rockets in 1977, despite restrictions placed by the FRG on the export of war materiel. The rockets were considered replacement parts and were officially dispatched to Chile via Buenos Aires, from Italy, the magazine explains. This type of rocket was initially manufactured by a group in the FRG, but since 1974 its final assembly has been made in Italy, according to the magazine. The transport of the rockets was done through an FRG freight company and a Swiss cargo airline which charged DM400,000 (almost $130,000) for their services.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS--(Enrique Mergonan), present Chilean consul in Frankfurt, has been appointed Foreign Ministry general administration director. He replaces Jaime Rosas, who has been appointed to navy duty. Foreign Ministry sources have reported that Javier Llanes, present Chilean ambassador to India, has been appointed Foreign Ministry general director. He replaces Col Jaime Lavin, who has been appointed air force attache to the Chilean Embassy in Israel. [Text] [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jan 79 PY]

EXPORT, IMPORT FIGURES--National exports in 1978 totaled $3.07 billion. Furthermore, imports in 1978 totaled $3.3 billion. Moreover, copper exports totaled $1.2 billion and nontraditional exports totaled $1.2 billion. This means that copper exports did not total 50 percent of Chilean exports. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 Jan 79 PY]

ARMY RAIDS CONTINUE, RESULT IN RECOVERY OF STOLEN WEAPONS

Raids, Arrests Continue

PA220346 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--According to reports gathered by sources close to the National Defense Ministry, several raids--which could add up to more than 50--were carried out in Bogota yesterday and today. These raids have yielded positive results.

In one of the raids, a woman threw a homemade grenade and wounded a soldier but, fortunately, he was not seriously injured.

Supernoticias learned at approximately 1600 today that the authorities raided a home in northwest Bogota and seized B-1 guns, 5.30 [words indistinct], 1 double-barreled shotgun, 7 Madsen submachine guns, 180 revolvers, 50 pistols of different calibers, 1,153 rounds of ammunition for different weapons, 140 cartridge clips for M-1 carbines, 14 [word indistinct] for Madsens [as heard], field glasses and M-19 documents. Four more persons accused of being M-19 members were arrested but their names were not revealed.

New M-19 Hideouts Discovered

PA221948 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1456 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 22 Jan (EFE)--Defense Ministry sources have reported that the military intelligence service "B-2" today, Monday, discovered two new hideouts here of the terrorist M-19 movement where weapons and war supplies were kept. The same military spokesmen confirmed that in one operation in a southern suburb of Bogota, a junior officer was seriously injured when a grenade thrown by one of the terrorists exploded in his face.

It was learned from sources in the Military Institutes Brigade that in another raid on Sunday, military security agents confiscated 283 automatic weapons and arrested eight members of the dismantled M-19 subversive group. Gen Miguel Vega Uribe stated that the weapons are part of the arsenal which the M-19 stole from the Ramon Arturo Rincon Quinones military unit early this year in a bold strike which caused great concern within the country's military forces.

The M-19 terrorist group, the armed branch of the Popular National Alliance, has been virtually disbanded following the arrest of its top leaders, including stage actor Carlos Duplat San Juan. Among those under arrest on suspicion of belonging to the M-19 are Tony Lopez Oyuela, former chief of the judicial police, and leftist newsman Augusto Lara Sanchez, main staff writer of VOZ PROLETARIA, the Communist Party organ.

All Stolen Weapons Recovered

PA231403 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The few stolen weapons still in the hands of the M-19 after the arms robbery at the year's end were recovered by the army today in a raid on the Alamo Norte district at 73d Street and 47th Avenue. It was officially reported that in house No 4771 five persons were captured and the following arsenal recovered: 50 M-1 carbines, 270 pistols, 16 MK-2 grenades, 1 .30-caliber rifle, 4 .22-caliber carbines, 1 San Cristobal carbine, 6 Madsen submachineguns, some 15,000 rounds of ammunition, abundant ammunition for the above weapons, subversive material and flags of the terrorist organization. In the same residence were found 10 car radios, 2 transmitters, 4 cameras with telephoto lenses and other items.

The residents of the building had been captured previously and gave information which led to the recovery of the stolen weapons. The army announced today that it has recovered all the weapons which the M-19 had stolen at the end of last year by digging a tunnel into an arsenal.

Both Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva as well as Commander of the Military Institutes Brigade Gen Miguel Vega Uribe expressed their satisfaction with the excellent investigation carried out by the army intelligence service which, in less than 20 days, completely recovered the weapons and captured many persons belonging to the subversive M-19 group. It was a tough piece of work deserving the congratulations and thanks of all Colombians, high-ranking military leaders said today in reporting the new arms recoveries.

The five persons arrested today were immediately arranged by the military examining judge [juez de instruccion penal militar], before whom they shall appear.

The government said today that the country had recovered its peace of mind and that Colombians have placed their hopes in government efforts to fight subversion. National Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva, after the preceding statements, said that operations by the military forces will continue not only in urban sectors, but also in rural sectors. He said that although subversion may still continue, the government believes that the M-19 has been disbanded.

The government reaffirmed today its decision to maintain the state of emergency and the security statute. The national defense minister said that the two measures will be maintained and that the results of the security statute will soon become evident. The situation at this time does not call for the lifting of the state of siege, and thus the country requires constant security measures, the minister concluded.

GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN STATE OF SIEGE, SECURITY STATUTE

PA231437 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva said here that the government will maintain the state of emergency and the security statute presently in force in the country. General Camacho Leyva said that the country needs continuing security measures. I believe that the state of siege must be maintained until the president decides that the proper conditions exist for lifting it, he said, adding: I am convinced that the security statute is good for the country.

President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's government has guaranteed that calm will be maintained throughout the country. In a brief statement to Supernoticias, the defense minister said that subversion has been brought under control. The minister noted the military operations carried out in several cities and the confiscation of weapons, most of which had been stolen by members of the M-19 group, which is on the way to being completely eliminated.

The defense minister said that normal conditions are being restored at all social levels and that an alert against subversion is being maintained throughout the country. In addition, the minister noted operations which military intelligence units are carrying out in several cities. He mentioned the sensational results obtained by legal and graphological experts regarding signatures appearing on M-19 documents which seriously implicate Dr Carlos Toledo Plata as the mastermind of the clandestine M-19 organization.

PRESIDENT DEFENDS USE OF ARMED FORCES TO FIGHT SUBVERSION

PA240235 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA

[Text] President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala made a new appeal to subversives today during a brief speech made before the members of the Santander Bolivarian Academy. The president said: It hurts me, as I said during my New Year's speech, to have to use the national armed forces against my own people. I wish that this did not have to happen, but it is not by the will of the armed forces that we have arrived at this situation. It is precisely because of the audacity of those who have wanted to endanger the civil nature of our republic and peace that this has happened.

Further on the president added: We do not want the people to feel they have a government that inhibits them but rather a government that will use force only within constitutional channels and democratic limits and solely for democratic stability.

M-19 PLANS TO OVERTHROW GOVERNMENT REVEALED

PA231854 Paris AFP in Spanish 1846 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jan (AFP)--The M-19 guerrilla movement, which was dismantled a few days ago by security forces, planned to overthrow the present government with frontal attacks against the army, Colombian Defense Ministry sources said here today.

Documents confiscated from the M-19, which stole thousands of weapons from a Bogota depot that were subsequently recovered by the army, have confirmed the insurrection plans with which the guerrillas expected to complete their seizure of power, said the same sources. The plans called for three phases of subversive struggle using the stolen arms to attack the army.

The revelation was made at the same time that raids and arrests of alleged M-19 members continue in Bogota and in other Colombian cities. One of the most sought after subversives is Carlos Toledo Plata, a physician, who is said to be one of the top M-19 leaders.

So far 300 persons, including a lady pianist, a former judge, a movie director and several university students, have been arrested in connection with the investigation of the arms theft.

ARMYMEN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH M-19 ROBBERY

PA221413 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Military Institutes Brigade admitted today that two noncommissioned army officers [as heard] have been arrested in the investigation of stolen army weapons, but denied that either was implicated in M-19 activities.

A high-ranking official source told this station that a lieutenant and a corporal, who should have been on duty in the early morning hours of 1 January, are being interrogated in connection with suspicious actions at the time when over 4,600 weapons were stolen. The lieutenant was guard commander at the depot where the weapons were stolen, and the sergeant [as heard] had unexpectedly changed his plans to go on vacation, changing shifts with another sergeant.

According to the source, coincidences are being investigated as well as any incident of negligence during duty, even though we do not believe this to be a case of complicity with the M-19.

FOREIGN MINISTER TERMS RELATIONS WITH PERU 'NORMAL'

PA240145 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Interview with Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Jose Ayala Lasso; place and date not given--presumably recorded]

[Text] [In progress] [Question] Some weeks ago the Italian press said that the dispute over Beagle Channel was designed to distract public opinion from national problems. It has also been speculated that the problems existing among Peru, Chile and Ecuador in this case could be used to draw domestic attention away from local problems.

[Answer] Speculations frequently made in the press express personal points of view that should be properly analyzed and studied within a climate of freedom. But there are other things, and these are facts. There is now a dispute between Argentina and Chile. This is an objective fact. Therefore the results of this [words indistinct] should not be the cause for mere speculation, and in this case it merely reflects the personal opinion of the author.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, are our relations with Peru tense at this moment?

[Answer] I would not say that. We have normal relations with Peru. There are problems, to which you have referred and which I discussed yesterday, but we expect relations to continue normally.

ALLE ED TORTURE OF PERUVIANS UNDER INVESTIGATION

PA231212 Paris AFP in Spanish 0135 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Quito, 22 Jan (AFP)--Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Jose Ayala said today that a thorough investigation has been started into alleged mistreatment inflicted by Ecuadorean authorities on Peruvians living in southern Ecuador, as reported by international dispatches originating in Lima. The Ecuadorean foreign minister issued a press communique on the protest lodged by the Peruvian Government in relation to torture suffered by Peruvians at the hands of Ecuadorean soldiers. Ayala said that a thorough investigation has been started to establish responsibilities and to punish those responsible for any abuses. He added that a system has existed between the Peruvian and Ecuadorean military authorities for some time which has been very effective in resolving incidents in which Ecuadorean citizens have been involved in Peru and Peruvian citizens have been involved in Ecuador, based on mutual respect and maintaining the good relations which should exist between the two countries.

The foreign minister said that the authorities have reaffirmed instructions to the effect that investigations must be carried out according to the law, with respect for the activities of foreigners living in the country and in the spirit of harmonious international coexistence that is the permanent norm of Ecuador's foreign policy. The foreign minister rejected the insinuations made by a Peruvian magazine on alleged involvement of Ecuadoreans in illicit activities with citizens of a third country in Peru.

POLITICAL LEADERS ASK GOVERNMENT TO IDENTIFY PLOTTERS

PA231518 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Two members of the People's Democracy, Gil Barragan Romero and Mauricio Davalos, have asked Rear Adm Victor Garces Pozo, government and justice minister, to identify the persons or groups trying to boycott the plan to restore the constitutional system, the main aspiration of the Ecuadorean people.

Barragan Romero accused the government of trying to use subterfuge to minimize the people's indignation at the involvement of the man in charge of public security--the top security man in the country--in the assassination of Abdon Calderon. Barragan Romero added that Minister Garces Pozo was ambiguous on whether he would give the names of sectors involved in the plot referred to. If he should do so, Barragan Romero pointed out, the government can be sure that every political group interested in restoring democracy in the country will stand up against the plotters and form a single front with the government, destroying political sectors which boycott the consitutional plan representing the desire of the majority of Ecuadoreans to have free institutions.

Finally, he said, it is my opinion that instead of accusing political sectors of plotting against the constitutional plan, the government should try to gain the people's confidence in its good faith. This can only be achieved when the government orders the arrest and trial of the mastermind in the assassination of Calderon. As long as it acts in a contrary manner, the people will not feel that strange forces are plotting against the constitutional plan, but that the government is biased on this case, especially when it shows particular interest in protecting the mastermind in this horrible crime and granting him special privileges not allowed to the others involved in the same crime, trying to create legal aspects which increase the people's distrust.

On the other hand, Mauricio Davalos, also from the People's Democracy, indicated that it is not new to have groups plotting against the political process. What is strange, he said, is to have the government making the accusation. I think, he said, that it is the government's duty to identify political sectors plotting against the constitutional plan instead of accusing political sectors in general.

AUTHORITIES RELEASE NEWSPAPER EDITOR

PA221503 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Francisco Salazar Tamariz, chief editor of the newspaper EXPRESO, was released in Quito by the authorities yesterday afternoon. Salazar Tamariz was sentenced to 10 days in prison by the intendant of Pichincha because of an article in the newspaper which the authorities did not like.

Salazar Tamariz was detained on 11 January as he left his office to meet with a woman who said that she had very important information in connection with the Calderon case. No one knew where he was taken until the authorities issued a communique on the same night, announcing that he had been arrested because of an article published on page 6 of EXPRESO. Later, because of bad health and efforts made by his colleagues, Salazar Tamariz was taken to the American clinic where he remained under arrest until yesterday. Organizations of all types disapproved of Salazar Tamariz' arrest.

PL GROUP BREAKS WITH PARTY, FORMS NEW MOVEMENT

PA201642 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Liberals opposed to the latest decisions of the leadership of the Liberal Party [PL], especially to the decision to expell former PL leader Francisco Huerta Montalvo, have decided to create a movement, the new Republic [Nueva Republica], which will affiliate with the Radical Liberal Party. The specific goals of this movement will be to carry out indoctrination work and to raise the prestige of radical liberalism. If this decision is not accepted by the leadership [presumably of the Radical Liberal Party], the New Republic will become a new party, according to Huerta Montalvo.

HOY ACCUSES POLICE OF WITHHOLDING COMMUNIQUE

PY231912 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 21 Jan 79 p 9 PY

[Editorial: "The Communique We Did Not Receive"]

[Excerpt] As it has turned out, the police investigation department did not trust this newspaper and did not understand its independent position because we did not receive for publication the communique issued by its public relations office. That department assumed that we would not publish it and that we would only admit our version, but it did so wrongly because we believe that our duty is to publish all viewpoints about a given case. Or it assumed, just as wrongly, that it would be more effective to hurl accusations at this newspaper through other newspapers in the belief that it would thus play the "competition factor" in its favor. The department did not realize however that on occasions such as this newspapers and radio stations stand together with the same attitude, the same understanding and the same purpose of securing freedom of information for the Paraguayan press.

However, the difference between the calm and even pious tone of the communique and the brusque raids on houses where people are meeting peacefully by representatives of the investigations department is to be noted. Obviously, the thinking of those operating out of police vehicles and the thinking of those who write communiques are not the same. The communique mentions the existence of the state of seige stipulated in Article 79 of the national constitution, the existence of which police forgot on the morning the peaceful demonstration was staged in front of the criminal court building because court authorities were not bothered by it, so the communique says.

But if police authorities did not attach importance to the event when it was taking place, why did they do so the morning after by issuing an order to seize the slogan-bearing signs used by the demonstrators? That order was neither shown nor mentioned at any time during the police raid in which the only order was "to get into the vehicle."

Nobody recalls that any police or judicial measure such as that was taken when a demonstration carrying signs and throwing stones was staged not too long ago in front of the U.S. Embassy in Asuncion.

POLICEMEN IN SANTA ROSA RAPE CASE TO FACE JUDGE

PY201346 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 20 Jan 79 p 15 PY

[Text] The former officials of the Santa Rosa police, Misiones Department, accused of rape will have to answer the charges before a judge next week.

The police officers are Nicolas Gracia and Milciades Escobar, both currently in prison in the Tacumbu national penitentiary.

According to a resolution of judge Elpidio Orlando Luraghi, Escobar will testify next Wednesday and Gracia next Thursday.

As can be recalled, Remigia Encina de Aifuch, Paraguayan, 18 years of age, has submitted criminal charges for alleged rape and physical injury.

This event took place on 23 December 1978 in the police building in Santa Rosa, Misiones. Also involved in the case were another policeman and three conscripts who are currently under arrest in the Misiones Department government headquarters in San Juan Bautista.

According to information received by the court yesterday, the others being accused were identified as Astrogildo Escobar, policeman; Porfirio de Jesus, Gregorio Falcon and Crispulo Flores, known as Capo. Flores, when called by the rural judge to testify, said that he did not want to take part in the incident but that he entered the jail where the woman was kept after Milciades Escobar, deputy chief, told him that he would give him his discharge papers if he did not sexually abuse the woman.

The policeman and the three conscripts were then sent to the San Juan government headquarters, where they are being held.

The defendants Nicolas Gracia and Milciades Escobar, according to the law, named lawyer Dario Gonzalez Brizuela to represent them in this case.

Lawyer Gonzalez, after interviewing the defendants, said that he will represent them in the defense.

The police report with all the information on this case, which was read by the press yesterday, does not include policeman Gracia. But in the charges his name is mentioned, perhaps because at that time he was the chief of the police station. Therefore, the judge in charge will have to determine culpability.

PLR PRESIDENT HAS WORDS OF PRAISE FOR MERGER

PY231821 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 21 Jan 79 p 11 PY

[Excerpt] German Acosta Caballero, president of the board of the Radical Liberal Party [PLR], has stated that "through the unity achieved between the PLR and the United Liberal Party we have become the essence of the liberal Paraguayan people."

Acosta Caballero said that "after much sacrifice we have achieved what we may call a political victory. The genuine liberals, the true Paraguayans, those of us who want to work for the greatness of our fatherland, have arrived at the conclusion that the fatherland needs the unity of its people. We believe that private interests should never prevail over our duty to the fatherland and that to a certain extent we have achieved a great victory."

GROUP OF 12 MEMBERS COMMENT ON MEETINGS WITH HERRERA, PEREZ

Herrera Promises Continuity

PA230114 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] The so-called Group of 12, a Nicaraguan political organization which is visiting our country, was very pleased with the reception extended by President-elect Luis Herrera Campins. Father Miguel de Escoto, who is a member of the so-called Group of 12, said that the president-elect had promised him that the position assumed by our government concerning the Nicaraguan people would be marked by continuity. Father Miguel de Escoto added that they met with President Carlos Andres Perez today and thanked him in the name of the Nicaraguan people for the position of solidarity assumed by the Venezuelan Government and our people for the problem being experienced by Somoza's fatherland.

Father Miguel de Escoto said that when they leave Venezuela they will go to Panama. The following are the statements made by one of the members of the so-called Group of 12: [Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] General Torrijos' private plane is returning to Venezuela Wednesday morning to take us to Panama, where we will spend approximately 3 days. We have planned subsequent visits to Colombia, Trinidad, Barbados, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Mexico.

[Question] How are your relations with the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], that is, the relations between the Group of 12 and the Sandinists?

[Answer] Ever since it became publicly known in October (?1977), the Group of 12 has extended great political and moral support to the FSLN. [end recording]

The representative said that if peace is to be achieved in Nicaragua, the FSLN must be part of that peace because it is the vanguard of the armed struggle. He said that the "12" withdrew from the so-called broad front because they believed that mediation by the United States and other countries should not be accepted.

In a news conference held today at El Conde Hotel, the Group of 12 said that there will soon be a democratic regime in Nicaragua in spite of the United States.

Replying to a query from one of the journalists present at the news conference on whether Venezuela had offered economic or arms aid, one of members of the Group of 12 said that this was not discussed with President Perez but that the Venezuelan position has always been one of solidarity and that they have received economic support from different organizations in our country to continue the struggle against dictator Anastasio Somoza.

OAS Report Discussed With Perez

PA230115 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] President Carlos Andres Perez has received the [Nicaraguan] Group of 12 in his office at Miraflores Palace. The group briefed the president on the situation of the Nicaraguan people. After the meeting, we interviewed Ernesto Castillo on the subjects discussed in the meeting: [Begin recording] [Castillo] This was one of the best meetings that we have had with President Perez to analyze the Nicaraguan problem, especially the position of the Venezuelan Government and people on the report of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission which covers the negation of these rights by Somoza's regime.

[Question] What conclusions did you reach?

[Answer] As on previous occasions, the president has taken the Nicaraguan cause very seriously. He promised us to continue this policy and to ask the OAS to make that report known so that the American countries will take whatever measures they consider appropriate toward the Somoza regime.

[Question] What are you doing to make that report known?

[Answer] We are visiting the democratic governments and peoples of Latin America which have demonstrated their solidarity with us.

[Question] What has the receptivity of the Latin American governments been?

[Answer] Very positive, very positive, especially that of the Venezuelan Government and people.

[Question] What is the situation in your country right now?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] all the Nicaraguan people are in a state of permanent insurrection until the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship is attained.

[Question] How is the democratic revolution of the Nicaraguan people being prepared?

[Answer] The Nicaraguan people are constantly preparing themselves, every day, hour by hour, because all the people are [word indistinct] in the struggle. However, it has been said that the revolution has weakened as a result of the dictator's attitude. That is not true. That same repressive and genocidal attitude on the part of dictator Somoza only encourages the Nicaraguan people to struggle with renewed vigor, strength and determination. [end recording]

That was the interview with Ernesto Castillo, who is a member of the Group of 12, which is seeking support among the Latin American countries to overthrow Anastasio Somoza's government.

COPEI LEADER SAYS NO TALKS HELD YET WITH LEFTIST PARTIES

PA212359 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 18 Jan 79 p D-3 PA

[Text] Barquisimeto, 17 Jan--Social Christian Party [COPEI] leader Rafael Andres Montes de Oca has stated here that his party has not held talks with the People's Electoral Movement or any other leftist party on a possible collaboration with the upcoming administration of Luis Herrera Campins.

In replying to a question by our correspondent about a possible agreement between COPEI and the leftist forces for the upcoming constitutional period, he pointed out that those talks had not been discarded. Montes de Oca said that these talks have not been discarded because President-elect Herrera Campins has repeatedly expressed his desire to have a broad-based administration. Consequently, the offer concerning a broad-based administration characterized by national understanding still exists.

Regarding President Herrera Campins' Cabinet and the appointment of the states' governors, he noted that it is a matter that will be exclusively up to the new chief of state once he assumes office. Consequently, any names mentioned or guesses are mere speculations. [paragraph continues]

The only one who will make decisions in this regard will be Campins, who will choose his immediate collaborators, Montes de Oca noted.

But will he make his choices in accordance with a mutual agreement with COPEI's top leadership? Montes de Oca was asked.

He will talk it over if he wants to, but he is not under any obligation to do so. COPEI has even released him from any obligation so that he will be free to choose his cabinet and appoint the governors and other high officials, Montes de Oca replied.

DEMOCRATIC ACTION REORGANIZES PARTY LEADERSHIP

PA190449 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0039 GMT 19 Jan 79 PA

[By Miguel Gils]

[Excerpts] Caracas, 18 Jan (EFE)--The Executive Committee of the Democratic Action Party [AD] agreed today to carry out a complete reorganization of its leadership cadres. The party's National Executive Committee made its first evaluation of the 3 December election in a meeting held last night.

One of the few persons to tell newsmen about what was discussed at the meeting was Jaime Lusinchi, leader of the parliamentary faction in the Chamber of Deputies. He noted that one of the measures adopted was the replacement of 17 secretaries general throughout the country. He said that the decision was made because these leaders were elected as deputies and, according to AD regulations, they cannot continue to hold leadership positions. According to Lusinchi, the replacement of these members of the party's leadership cadres caused certain discrepancies within the National Executive Committee.

Another measure adopted was to suggest to the Social Christian Party the election of Carlos Canache Mata as the new president of the Chamber of Deputies.

With the party reorganization, AD leaders will try to regain power in 1983 by appointing young charismatic men to leadership positions. These young men will keep themselves up to date in regard to the aspirations of the Venezuelan people.

According to top AD leaders, the 3 December defeat has served to strengthen the party and to give the new generations a chance.

COMMUNIST PARTY CHALLENGES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS

PA232313 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] A total of 1,800 district election certificates were impugned this morning by Radames Larrazabal in the name of the Venezuelan Communist Party [PCV]. The PCV denounced irregularities in the 1,800 certificates as well as irregularities in all the 17,000 voting booths installed throughout the country. The PCV says that the irregularities range from the annulment of votes to the transfer of votes from the Communist Party and minority parties to other political parties.

Radames Larrazabal said that if the Supreme Electoral Council does not deal appropriately with the request of the PCV, the party is prepared to go before the Supreme Court to [words indistinct] verification of the irregularities.

AUCCTU OFFICIAL HERE FOR TALKS WITH UNION LEADERS, WORKERS

PA221450 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 18 Jan 79 p D-2 PA

[Text] Georgiy Kanayev, a deputy chief of the Soviet All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU], has arrived in Venezuela for meetings with Venezuelan labor centrals, federations and leaders.

With the help of his translator, Sergey Golkin, an AUCCTU collaborator who is accompanying him on this trip through Latin America, Kanayev told us that the main purpose of his visit is to meet with the leaders of the Confederation of Workers of Venezuela, which the AUCCTU has maintained good relations with for years and which it cooperates with through the ILO; the Unified Workers Federation of Venezuela (CUTV), which is his host in Caracas; and other trade union leaders. Kanayev hopes to obtain information about the socioeconomic achievements and triumphs of Venezuelan workers during these conversations.

Kanayev told us that the AUCCTU, one of his country's most important and powerful political organizations, has expressed its solidarity and sympathy toward the Venezuelan Government and people for the legitimate and positive step they took in nationalizing the oil and iron industries "as well as their repudiation of Latin American dictatorships, opposition to support by the PRC and solidarity with oppressed peoples."

When asked for his opinion about the protracted and futile negotiations between industrialized and underdeveloped countries, Kanayev told us that "the Soviet trade union rejects the disparaging term 'southern countries' used by the U.S. side in connection with the well-known and much debated North-South dialog because the talks should be held with all nations on an equal footing and because the developed countries are dutybound to provide all necessary cooperation and assistance, provided this is done for the benefit of the workers. The capitalist countries have always oppressed the underdeveloped nations. We feel that one must struggle to defend the principle that all countries have the same rights," he added.

Soviet trade unions are especially interested in "strengthening 'trade union' friendship with workers regardless of their nationality because, no matter what their differences, the workers have much in common," Kanayev said. One of the ways in which the USSR sponsors such strengthening is what Kanayev described as "trade union tourism," which enables the workers of many countries to visit the Soviet Union at a low cost.

The Soviet labor leader will stay in Venezuela 1 week. He will visit industrial centers in Maracaibo, Guayana and Valencia at the CUTV's invitation.

POSTAL WORKERS BEGIN INDEFINITE STRIKE

PA182306 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2205 GMT 18 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 18 Jan (LATIN)--More than 3,000 workers of the Venezuelan Postal and Telegraphic Institute [Instituto Postal y Telegrafico--IPT] began an indefinite strike today to demand the salary compensation promised 2 years ago when their working hours were increased, the strikers reported to LATIN. The IPT is in charge of the country's postal and telegraphic communications service. The workers noted that they have not received their December paychecks either.

TIMETABLE SET FOR OFFICIAL PARTY FORMATION

PA212014 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1617 GMT 21 Jan 79 PA

[Speech by Ricardo Rodriguez, Democratic Revolutionary Party coordinator, at a party meeting in Chorrera--live]

[Excerpts] Party registration will begin on 5 March and end on 30 March, or perhaps by the middle of May. We want to conduct a wide-ranging registration campaign so that the party will become, because of the size of its membership and conceptual unity, the most powerful party in the nation's history, the strongest party. That must be so because it is the party of the revolution. It must be strong and powerful.

After registration is completed all party members will elect the delegates from Chorrera to the party's national convention to form the party. In principle, we have scheduled this convention for the month of July of this year. The delegates you elect will definitively discuss the party's principles, its platform and its bylaws. After these instruments are approved by the convention, once the party has its rules and regulations, the party's leaders will be elected accordingly. Therefore, during this stage what we will basically be doing is the following: From its beginning in January to 5 March there will be an information, political training, and organization campaign. From 5 March onwards, there will be a campaign to register party followers. Then we will organize the way in which we will elect the members or delegates from Chorrera to the national convention. These are the immediate steps we will take.

PANAMENIST SPOKESMAN DISCOUNTS IMPORTANCE OF REGISTRATION

PA231822 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Jan 79 pp 1-A, 6-A PA

[From "El Caldero Politico" column]

[Text] "None of the organs of the Panamenist Party has discussed or decided anything regarding registration," Guillermo Endara G., one of the leaders of that party, said this morning.

"As far as we are concerned the Panamenist Party has existed as a social and political fact for the past 50 years of this country's history. This social entity needs an organization that will permit it to participate in the various aspects of national life," Endara emphasized in explaining the organizational tours which Panamenist leaders have been making in various provinces.

Endara said that the Panamenist Party has active organizations at the national, provincial and district levels and is now strengthening party organization at the level of corregimientos, residential areas, municipalities and even smaller nuclei. Among these, Endara announced that a Panamenist cell would soon be established within a senior citizens' nursing home.

Endara emphasized that "the problem of registration is of no importance to Panamenists. The country has such great problems that to consider a subject of such low priority as a law that draws a smokescreen over national problems would be like considering a problem of the municipality of Piura in Peru."

The Panamenist leader said that the party will continue its organizational tours next week, probably in Chiriqui Province. They have already visited the provinces of Herrera and Los Santos.

ROYO BEGINS TOUR OF BOCAS DEL TORO PROVINCE

PA230020 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Panamanian President Aristides Royo and his government team arrived in Bocas del Toro Province today. They will tour various areas of the province to discuss and find solutions to its problems. In the first phase of his visit President Royo met with various sectors of Bocas del Toro. These sectors outlined some of their concerns to him and his government team. Here is part of the speech by President Royo in that meeting: [begin recording] At this time we will not make any specific announcement [words indistinct] reply for Bocas del Toro. We are going to take advantage of this part of the tour to hold talks with various sectors. Afterward, we will make some proposals, reach some conclusions and give some specific and general answers in regard to the solution of some of the problems of Bocas del Toro.

After the speeches by the ministers, who have made some proposals and answered some questions, we are going to continue working in this province. There are some things I want to briefly touch on this morning. I want to tell you that Bocas del Toro Province has not been forgotten. We are going to continue to come here. The time has passed when those who came here did so for political campaigns, in search of votes, and then they did not return for the next 4 years. A shameful practice in our history was that some honorable deputies did not even live in the province from which they were elected. Those times have passed. Now you have Contreras, Mitchell, Wilson and Vega, who are from Bocas del Toro. They live, eat and work here. You have no idea how these men are working for this province before all the ministries and government offices in Panama City. If at some time we stop being concerned about this province, and I hope this will never occur, you can be sure that you are very well represented by good Panamanians who are unceasingly working on behalf of their dear province, which is also dear to us.

We will be visiting Almirante and Changuinola today and tomorrow. We will speak with practically all sectors which make up Bocas del Toro. We are going to give replies, but not all the ones we and you would like because we do not have the necessary budget resources to take care of all the demands and needs expressed here and in other meetings. However, we do have an important thing: the good will to try to help this province. [end recording]

CANADIAN TRADE MISSION ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA222021 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jan 79 PA

[Text] An official Canadian trade mission, made up of 23 officials, arrived in Panama last night to promote relations between Canada and Panama and to learn how Canadian exports, financing and investment can better contribute to Panama's economic development. The delegation is headed by (Claus Schalam), Canadian deputy minister of commerce and industry, who is an expert in foreign trade matters. In addition, the delegation is made up of representatives of 10 private companies and 4 associations which are interested in trade and investment in Panama.

Canadian statistics indicate that Canadian imports from Panama in 1977 were worth over $11 million, while exports totaled $16 million. Several Canadian firms are involved in various projects in Panama, such as the Cerro Colorado [mining project], a sawmill in the Bayano region and supplies for the hotel-convention center in Panama City.

MEXICAN PRESIDENT TO INAUGURATE INSTITUTE 5 FEB

PA192301 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Jan 79 p 1-B PA

[Excerpt] Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo will inagurate the Panama-Mexico friendship professional and technical institute on 5 February. The institute cost $649,400 and was built on the Naranjal farm, Corregimiento of Chepo, Panama Province.

The institute--which represents the two countries' harmonious, friendly relations in an effective manner--was built with a contribution of 80 percent, approximately $502,400, from the Mexican Government and 20 percent from the Panamanian Government through the eastern operational committee and the Education Ministry.

DIANA AROSEMENA NAMED PCA INFORMATION HEAD

PA201544 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 20 Jan p 1 79 PA

[Excerpt] Television news commentator Diana Arosemena was this week appointed director of the information department of the Panama Canal Authority [PCA] by PCA executive director Gabriel Lewis Galindo. Miss Arosemena is a member of the news commentating staff at Channel 4 television station.

BRIEFS

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT--Jose Diaz Seixas, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture of Panama, was appointed president of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Central America, which will have its headquarters in Panama City. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 12 Jan 79 pp 1, 28 PA]

AGREEMENTS WITH LIBYA RATIFIED--The Republic of Panama and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah yesterday exchanged the instruments of ratification of the cultural agreement, the mutual cooperation general agreement and the economic cooperation and commercial exchange agreement signed on 16 April 1977 in Tripoli. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 17 Jan 79 pp 1, 14 PA]

PARTY POLITICAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED--The Agrarian Labor Party [Partido Laborista Agrario] issued a communique on 12 January 1979 announcing that on 11 January 1979 the party's National Directorate had appointed a political committee in charge of making decisions in connection with the forthcoming electoral process. The committee members are: Heraclio Barletta Jr., Campo Elias Munoz, Antonio Alessandria, Demetrio Decerega, Crescencio Melgar, Jeronimo Escala, Luis A. Barletta Jr., Rafael Barranco, Maximo Luque Jr., Franco Aguilar and Azael Vargas, the party's secretary general. [Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 13 Jan 79 p 32 PA]

BUS FARE INCREASES--Beginning on 1 February the minimum bus fare in Panama City will be 10 cents, as per the agreement reached between SICOTRAC [expansion unknown] bus drivers and the national government. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 18 Jan 79 PA]

SUPREME COURT JUDGE--Jorge Fabrega P. was sworn in yesterday as a new magistrate of the Supreme Court of Justice to replace Juan Materno Vasquez, who resigned. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 19 Jan 79 p 1 PA]

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUAN PLANES REPORTEDLY VIOLATE NATIONAL AIRSPACE

PA232326 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[San Jose Radio Reloj transcribed telephone report exclusively for Panama City Domestic Service--recorded]

[Text] This is a report from the editing room of Radio Reloj. Early this morning, the Santa Cecilia de la Cruz sector, located on the northern border, experienced some moments of anxiety when Nicaraguan planes flew over the area, violating once more Costa Rica's sovereign airspace. Residents of the area reported that some persons on their way to work were startled when they heard machinegun fire over their heads. Some peasants who were working their land were machinegunned but fortunately were able to hide in some bushes to avoid being hit. Such was the situation this morning in Santa Cecilia de la Cruz, some 13 km from the northern border.

Following is a recording sent from the northern border region, in which Anselmo Padilla Gutierrez, a teacher in the Santa Cecilia de la Cruz community, gives information on the events in that area today. [Begin recording] At approximately 0730 this morning, we heard some planes about 2 or 3 km away. This alarmed us because they were very close and we thought they were going to bomb the town of Santa Cecilia. Later, we learned that six persons experienced a very dramatic moment when they were machinegunned by the planes as they were heading for their farms. Fortunately, they were able to hide in the bushes and avoid being hit. Other peasants in the same sector also had to run into the bushes when the planes opened fire on them. The planes, which were clearly observed from the town, flew over Costa Rican territory for approximately 30 minutes. We notified the presidential house in Liberia, and at this moment there are some officials investigating the incidents. [end recording]

VIOLATION OF NICARAGUAN AIRSPACE BY PRIVATE PLANE DENIED

PA231401 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] Managua--A Costa Rican light plane was shot at by the Nicaraguan National Guard when it violated Nicaraguan airspace. The announcement was made in Nicaragua today in a brief communique signed by Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, chief of the army's public relations department. It reported that a white and yellow Costa Rican plane with the initials (?EI-AKF) on it violated Nicaraguan airspace 2 days ago. The plane made two passes over the Nicaraguan side of the San Juan River. Therefore, a Nicaraguan National Guard patrol fired at it several times, forcing it to flee back into Costa Rica. The communique did not say what type of plane it was.

The army's public relations office has recently been reporting the border and shooting incidents with Costa Rica with much delay. In today's communique it did not report victims in the light plane incident, nor did it say whether the Nicaraguan Government had lodged a protest with the Costa Rican Government over the supposed territorial violation.

The Costa Rican Government has denied the report on the light plane that was fired upon by the National Guard. The plane, (?EI-AKF), which according to the National Guard was fired upon in the vicinity of the border on the Nicaraguan side, has been under repair for the past 3 months.

Vice Government Minister Carlos Arguedas le Franc said that after investigating the situation with the Civil Aviation Department, it was determined that the plane is registered in the name of the Cecil Murray Fumigating Company and that it has been under repair for the past 3 months.

TWO NICARAGUAN GUARDSMEN GRANTED POLITICAL ASYLUM

PA240203 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2159 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Jose, 22 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan National Guardsmen Placido Vallejo and Edmundo Vega Loaiza, who were captured in Costa Rican territory on Monday, were today granted the political asylum they had requested.

Meanwhile, Costa Rican Public Security Vice Minister Enrique Montealegre Martin has announced that security will be reinforced in Los Chiles to prevent new incursions of Nicaraguan guardsmen. He also said that reinforcements had been deployed to the area in view of rumors about alleged reprisals against the residents. "Messages" about the reprisals have been circulating in the area.

COSTA RICAN GIRL SHOT BY NICARAGUAN GUARDSMAN

PA240244 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] A sad incident occurred near the border today as Yolanda Guido Guido, who had taken refuge in La Cruz, walked around her house, which is located 75 meters from the Nicaraguan border. The girl was standing behind her house when she was shot in the hip by a National Guardsman. The National Guardsman who shot the girl was arrested by his own comrades.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH SENEGAL

PA232314 Paris AFP in Spanish 2101 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Jose, 23 Jan (AFP)--Costa Rica and Senegal established diplomatic relations today, the Costa Rican Government officially announced. The corresponding negotiations were carried out in Paris by Costa Rican Ambassador Antonio Canas Iraeta and Senegalese Ambassador Amadou Cisse.

The Costa Rican and Senegalese governments, in their desire to expand their relations in the economic, commercial and cultural fields, agreed to establish diplomatic relations starting today, 23 January 1979, the official communique issued by the Foreign Ministry said.

GUATEMALA

EGP GUERRILLA GROUP OCCUPIES TOWN OF NEBAJ

PA231510 Paris AFP in Spanish 0418 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 22 Jan (AFP)--It was learned here tonight that some 150 guerrillas, 80 percent of them Indians, occupied the town of Nebaj in Quiche Department, leaving four dead and two injured.

According to information received tonight in the capital, the attack took place on Sunday morning. The guerrillas, who identified themselves as members of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP), occupied the two entrances to the town and cut off all communications. Two policemen resisted the attackers for a few minutes until they ran out of ammunition. One of them was injured and the other fled.

The EGP members forced the residents to go to the town square for a meeting, which they carried out in the Indian dialect, accusing the police, the army and farmers in the area of being responsible for local problems. It was learned here that farmer Enrique Brolo Galicia, who refused to go, was shot and killed.

The guerrillas departed 3 hours later, at approximately 1000 (1600 GMT), in the direction of Ueche Contzal, where they stole a truck last night.

At 0500 (1100 GMT) this morning the guerrillas attacked the San Francisco Cotzal estate, where military policemen attempted to repel them. In the struggle one guerrilla was killed and another injured and three soldiers were killed. It was said today that the administrator of the estate, which is owned by Brolo, was miraculously able to escape. The guerrillas later withdrew to the Reina area in the northern part of the country.

Army helicopters arrived in the area where the EGP guerrillas had distributed a large amount of propaganda. As of Monday night, no official communique had been issued on the incidents.

Observers note that this is the first large-scale operation to be carried out by the EGP in the region. They also noted that for the first time most of the guerrillas were Indians.

BRIEFS

GRANT FROM JAPAN--The governments of Guatemala and Japan have exchanged notes to formalize an agreement by which Japan will grant Guatemala 400 million yen (2.023 million quetzales) as a contribution to programs for the reconstruction and improvement of potable water systems in the interior of the republic. [Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 15 Jan 79 p 4 PA]

HONDURAS

GUATEMALAN MINISTER HERE ON VISIT DISCUSSES REGIONAL ISSUES

PA240127 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1932 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jan (LATIN)--Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez stressed here the need to further efforts to consolidate Central American integration. The minister made these statements at a meeting yesterday with members of the military government junta on his first trip to Honduras since he took office.

According to Castillo Valdez, Central America's global integration is urgently needed and highly advisable in order for all of us to respond to our peoples' common destiny and be able to enjoy the undeniable benefits that such joint work would generate for each of the families in the regional community.

The Guatemalan foreign minister refused to comment on Nicaragua's political crisis on the basis of the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other states. We sincerely hope that each people will be able to forge their own destiny without any kind of interference which, instead of benefitting, only hinders our societies, he said.

Castillo Valdez denied that Guatemala has sent troops to help President Anastasio Somoza repress the Sandinist National Liberation Front guerrillas. Guatemala has no soldiers in Nicaragua or in any other territory, he stressed.

When asked for an explanation of Guatemalan currency that the Sandinist guerrillas claim to have found on the clothes of alleged Nicaraguan soldiers, the minister responded ironically that he was pleased to learn that Guatemalan quetzales are circulating throughout Central America.

The official also denied that Guatemala is trying to establish an axis with El Salvador and Honduras to search for a solution to the Nicaraguan problem. The only axis that my country is interested in is its self-development so that through the well-being of Guatemalans we may contribute to the area's well-being.

Castillo Valdez said he has no knowledge of any meeting of the area's rulers within recent weeks or any to be held in the near future. Nonetheless, he said that he favors the idea of holding such a meeting because not only the rulers should unite, but all Central Americans as brothers in the same territory, which we all are.

NICARAGUA

NATIONAL GUARD-FSLN CLASH REPORTED NEAR COSTA RICAN BORDER

PA231958 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1911 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Rivas (Nicaragua), 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Shortly after noon today, Tuesday, the border area between this country and Costa Rica returned to normal after a clash of about 2 hours between the Nicaraguan National Guard and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] international brigade.

Gen Gonzalo Evertz, military chief of the southern district, told ACAN-EFE that an alleged .50-caliber machinegun nest was found between the Nicaraguan town of Cardenas and the border. The machinegun nest was attacked by land and air. The results of the attack were still unknown, the military chief added, with reports of casualties and wounded expected in a few hours.

Civilian OAS observers based in the Nicaraguan Port of San Juan del Sur will visit the site and draw their own conclusions.

[Words indistinct] Panama and another from Surinam who is expected shortly are part of the international observation group which will try to bring peace to the southern Nicaraguan border, which has remained open despite harassment.

FSLN COMMUNIQUE CLAIMS CONTROL OVER SOUTHERN AREA

PA240316 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2329 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) issued a communique today claiming that it controls part of the territory along the southern border of Nicaragua after having recovered land owned by President Anastasio Somoza and former Congress President Cornelio Hueck and distributing it among the peasants of the region. [Words indistinct] published in the newspaper LA PRENSA and disseminated by telephone throughout Central America by FSLN spokesman Ernesto Cardenal.

The area specified by the FSLN is located between Sapoa and Colon, Rivas Department. The FSLN also proceeded to expropriate the cattle on the farms. The communique added that in the harassment actions which the insurgents have carried out against the National Guard, they have [words indistinct] in Los Menas and Los Sabalos, Rivas Department. They have carried out similar actions in El Castillo, Pueblo Nuevo, Orosi, Villa Guadalupe and Palo de Arco, Rio San Juan Department.

The FSLN added that the actions have forced army patrols to withdraw to positions in the interior in both departments bordering on Costa Rica.

The communique added that one soldier was killed and three wounded during an attack on an army boat ambushed on the San Juan River. The FSLN conceded having suffered more than nine casualties in the border struggle to overthrow General Somoza's government, listing the names of Jose Francisco Gaitan, Crescencio Lambon, Escoto Escobar, Oscar Montealegre, Danilo Ponce, Oriel Sanchez, Erasmo Moreno and another identified only as "Santiago."

It confirmed that Heroldo Porta, captured by the Nicaraguan Government, is an FSLN member and demanded that his life be respected as a prisoner of war. Finally, the communique said that the General Staff of the Carlos Fonseca Amador Northern Sandinist Front had revealed through its commander, German Pomares Ordonez, that on 17 January [words indistinct] military patrol on the Ocotal-Macuelizo Highway in northern Nicaragua, inflicting [words indistinct]. It also denounced the fact that the Espinoza family, from whose farm the ambush was launched, was arrested by military patrols.

NATIONAL GUARD ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON HARASSMENT INCIDENTS

PA231400 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0340 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Communique issued by the Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard; date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] The Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard informs the people that National Guard patrols pursuing the terrorists who on the 17th of this month blew up the explosives at the gypsum mine in Santa Rosa del Penon, Leon Department, clashed with them on Friday, 19 January, at a place located between the Nacascolo River and El Sardinal Creek. The terrorists suffered six casualties.

The National Guard seized weapons and ammunition of various calibers.

It is also reported that at approximately 1100 on 20 January the Penas Blancas border was harassed from Costa Rican territory with mortar, machinegun and rifle fire. At approximately 0700 on 20 January a light plane painted white and yellow and with the letters (?EI-AKF) on it violated the national airspace, making two passes over the Nicaraguan side of the San Juan River. A National Guard patrol fired on the aircraft, forcing it to flee into Costa Rican territory.

The National Guard patrols continue their missions throughout the entire territory of the nation to safeguard the lives and properties of Nicaraguans.

[Signed] Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, chief of the Legal and Public Relations Office of the National Guard

WAVE OF VIOLENCE CONTINUES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

PA232018 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1903 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--A corporal and a Nicaraguan Army aide died last night in the Monimbo Indian district in the city of Masaya, 30 km east of here, as the wave of violence prevailing in Nicaragua continued. Arnoldo Flores and Enrique Gaitan were shot by a group of masked youths armed with revolvers.

The presumed members of the clandestine Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] also attacked a truck belonging to the Nimosa Flour Company which was passing through the city on the way to Granada. Further east they stopped persons considered to be progovernment, rebuked them and harangued them in favor of the revolutionary struggle.

Two other citizens were shot from a moving automovile on the southern section of the Pan-American Highway near the town of El Crucero. They were taken to the eastern hospital of this city for medical attention. The injured, Mario Solorzano and Rafael Mendoza, who are 19 and 20 years old respectively, do not know who shot them or why. They sustained stomach and leg wounds.

Meanwhile, the towns of Jinotepe, in the southeastern Department of Carazo, and Leon, in the west, experienced a night of tension in which constant explosions of contact bombs and sporadic shooting led to intensive patrols. In Leon the rattling of heavy arms fire was heard, but no casualties were reported.

In Granada, 45 km east of Managua, a Sandinist cell attacked Radio Granada and ordered the broadcast of an anti-Somoza proclamation during the newscast of Julio Pernudi, who was left manacled along with one of the station's operators.

In the capital, two taxi drivers were attacked by youths armed with pistols who used the taxis for guerrilla operations, avoiding detection by military authorities who constantly patrol the arteries of the capital at night. Taxi driver Mario Garcia remained in the trunk of his taxi for over 2 hours and almost lost his life when his attackers became involved in a shootout. It is not known whether they were fighting with common criminals or with the authorities.

Pedro Estrada had better luck. He was abandoned in an isolated part of the capital. His car was later found with bloody rags inside and with the windshield totally destroyed.

The Permanent Human Rights Commission in Nicaragua today continued to receive lists of peasants and young students who were arrested and whose fate has not been clarified by the police.

In addition, relatives of peasants have come from the mountains in the north and west of the country to report the arrest of peasants and the continued bombardment by the air force as it pursues guerrilla groups operating in those areas.

Meanwhile, today was the eighth day of the hunger strike being carried out by some 30 members of the Federation of Health Workers (FETSALUD) at the headquarters of the Nicaraguan Red Cross. Many of the men and women involved in the voluntary fast protesting the dismissal of over 2,500 health workers last October have begun to note a decline in their health, if not in their spirits.

Representatives of labor, student, women's and other organizations are joining the hunger strike for 24 hours. Their federation has announced that it will organize a new hospital strike, the first this year, if its demand is not met that all the unjustly dismissed workers be reinstated.

CAPTURED CHILEAN DESCRIBES SANDINIST MISSION AS 'SUICIDAL'

PA221258 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2032 GMT 20 Jan 79 PA

[By Filadelfo Martinez of ACAN-EFE]

[Excerpts] Managua, 20 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Approximately 600 men constitute the Sandinist army which has been confronting the Nicaraguan National Guard on the southern border with Costa Rica. The revelation was made today by Haroldo Horta Trikallotis Landeros, a Chilean Sandinist fighter who was taken prisoner by the Nicaraguan National Guard 4 days ago and who was presented to journalists in Managua today.

"The goal of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has been to organize a conventional army to fight on an equal footing with the Nicaraguan National Guard," he said. He added that the Sandinist army had been training in Costa Rica, especially on Santa Rosa and El Hacha farms, but that on many occasions the fighters had to go to camps to avoid persecution by the Costa Rican Civil Guard. He said that the Sandinist forces went through a "purification" process between the time they started training and the time they began fighting.

He explained that the FSLN was initially open to all youths who wanted to join the army but that the forces were later purged. He said that in the beginning adventurers participated in the training, as did individuals who created conflicts, that some individuals found out "their place was not there," that there were desertions and that others simply left the Sandinist guerrillas. He said that the Sandinist army has only one platoon made up of Panamanians and that in the beginning the Panamanian guerrilla column was composed of approximately 60 men.

However, he said that as a result of problems which arose, it became necessary to "drop" several individuals, and the Panamanian column was reduced to 40 men. Trikallotis Landeros, who joined the Sandinist forces as a photographer on a journalistic assignment, finally put his camera aside and took up a rifle.

The Chilean fighter said that the column he was part of had five other Chileans, two Mexicans, two Hondurans, one Colombian and that the rest were Nicaraguans. He said that the FSLN ranks include women, but that obviously women are in the minority. Horta Trikallotis, whose parents live in Hungary, said that Eden Pastora, or "Commander Cero," is the leader of the Sandinist armed forces. He added that the legendary Mexican guerrilla leader, Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez, "is alive," and that a report which listed him as killed in combat has no basis in fact.

The Chilean fighter said in reply to journalists' questions that now that he has seen the firepower and training of the National Guard he believes it is suicidal to confront the Nicaruan Army. "The conditions to confront a regular army do not exist. Every day some of us get killed. It is madness to fight this way," he said.

The young Chilean rebel was presented today to the members of the commission of OAS observers who are in Nicaragua and told them a tale similar to the one he told the journalists.

The Chilean said that he always considers himself an FSLN fighter and that he was known as "Felipe" in the guerrilla column of which he was a member. He revealed that the Nicaraguan guerrillas who gave military training to the insurgent column of which he was a member came from the mountains of northern Nicaragua.

CUBA, ETHIOPIA SIGN AGREEMENT IN ADDIS ABABA

FL231227 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] In Addis Ababa, Cuba and Ethiopia have signed an agreement which provides for Cuban technical assistance in the field of physical planning aimed at developing that activity as part of the new socialist planning system in that African country. The agreement was signed in the Ethiopian capital by (Tekola Degene), deputy secretary general of the Supreme Central Council for Planning, who is charged with the Ethiopian drive for economic development, and Rene Saladrigas, director of the Cuban Institute of Physical Planning.

TALKS RESUME WITH SPAIN FOR NEW TRADE AGREEMENT

FL231754 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Madrid--Spain and Cuba have resumed the talks aimed at signing a new trade agreement between the two countries. The agreement, which is believed will be signed this week, will be in effect for 5 years, an official source has stated. Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrizas and his Spanish counterpart, Carlos Boustelo, head the delegations discussing the terms of the agreement.

The negotiations, whose first round was held in Havana in December 1978, later continued in Madrid, where it was agreed to grant a second 30-day extension to the agreement presently in force. This agreement was signed in 1974.

In 1978 Cuba purchased goods from Spain valued at more than 50 million dollars. During this period of time the total volume of trade between the two countries amounted to more than 600 million dollars.

ANGOLAN PRESIDENT NETO ARRIVES FOR VISIT

FL231113 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Starting today, 23 January, Comrade Dr Agostinho Neto, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, will pay a private and friendly visit to Cuba. President Neto is accompanied by a party and government delegation composed of Henrique Carreira, member of the Politburo and defense minister; Alfonso Van Dunen, member of the Central Committee and secretary of its Foreign Relations Department; Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge; Foreign Trade Minister Roberto de Almeida; and other Angolan personalities.

Received by Fidel Castro

FL240029 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, this afternoon received Agostinho Neto, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, on his arrival in Cuba on a private and friendly visit. Others at Jose Marti International Airport were Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC, and other members of the PCC Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee. The Angolan chief executive is accompanied by an MPLA and government delegation including Henrique Carreira, member of the MPLA Politburo and minister of defense; Alfonso Van Dunen, member of the Central Committee and secretary of the MPLA's Department of Foreign Relations; Minister of Foreign Relations Paulo Jorge; Minister of Foreign Trade Roberto de Almeida and other officials.

This is the third time that the president of the People's Republic of Angola has been to Cuba. The first time was from 22 to 29 July 1976, when he was here in response to an invitation from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Neto was also in our country from 23 to 26 August 1977 on a private and friendly visit.

RSFSR DELEGATION MEETS WITH FERNANDEZ PADILLA

FL240149 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Jan 79 FL

[Text] A delegation from the USSR headed by Domna Komarova, minister of social security of the RSFSR, has visited the State Committee for Labor and Social Security headquarters. The delegation is visiting our country at the invitation of the Cuban Revolutionary Government and was received at the state committee headquarters by Oscar Fernandez Padilla, minister president of that institution, Francisco Penalver and other members of the governing council. During their stay at the State Committee for Labor and Social Security, the visitors were interested in various topics, among them those relating to social security and assistance in Cuba.

FINNISH FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MEETS WITH LEON TORRAS

FL231731 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Raul Leon Torras, minister president of the Cuban National Bank, has held talks with Finland's Foreign Trade Minister Eero Rantala. Present at the talks were Julio A. Imperatori and Raul Amado Blanco, first vice president and vice president of the Cuban National Bank, respectively, as well as the members of the Finnish delegation headed by Rantala and Finland's Ambassador to Cuba Jussi Montonen. During the talks, which were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, the bilateral economic and financial relations and their future development were examined. Eero Rantala and his delegation are participating in this capital's fourth meeting of the mixed commission for industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

MARCELO FERNANDEZ RECEIVES FINNISH DELEGATION

FL232312 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Marcelo Fernandez, minister of foreign trade, has received the delegation headed by Eero Rantala, minister of industry and commerce of Finland. Also at the meeting with the Cuban minister were Lazaro Cabezas, charge d'affaires of our country in Finland; Raul Taladrid, director at the State Committee for Economic Cooperation; and other leaders of the Cuban Foreign Trade Ministry. Jussi Montonen, Finnish ambassador to Cuba, also attended. An hour earlier, the Finnish delegation was received by Fernanco Vecino, minister of higher education.

YEMEN DELEGATION VISITS HAVANA CITY CDR OFFICE

FL232258 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Fadl Muhammad 'Abd ar-Radi national coordinator of the People's Defense Committees of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, who heads a delegation from that organization which is visiting Cuba, has held a working meeting with the Executive Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution--CDR--of Havana City. The CDR structure, its characteristics, its objectives, and the tasks it carries out were explained to the Yemeni delegation by Antonio Argamasilla, CDR coordinator in this capital. Mass mobilizations in defense of the revolutionary government were explained, as was building socialism and strengthening the support of the whole population around the PCC.

FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA ARRIVES IN GDR

FL240037 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today began an official visit to the GDR. The Cuban foreign minister is there in response to an invitation from his GDR counterpart, Oskar Fischer, with whom he will meet during his stay in Berlin. Malmierca will be received by Erich Honecker, secretary general of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] and chairman of the State Council; and Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the SED Politburo.

HART ATTENDS OPENING EVENT OF CULTURAL DAYS IN USSR

FL240141 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The days of Cuban culture in the USSR were inaugurated today with a colorful inaugural event held at the Palace of the Congresses in the Kremlin with the attendance of Armando Hart Davalos, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of culture. Armando Hart stated that without the encouragement of socialism the Cuban artistic movement would not have developed universality, diversity, happiness and creativity as they should be developed; and he stressed that there is no greater artistic liberty nor cultural creativity in the secular history of humanity than that forged by socialism.

The Cuban culture minister also presided over the opening of a Cuban painting exhibit at the (Petriakov) Gallery in Moscow at which Marta Arjona, national director of Cuban museums, specialists, orities and the general public called the displayed works marvellous and told Armando Hart and his entourage of their pleasure at being able to admire the works in that museum, which holds the best of Russian and Soviet art.

SOVIET CULTURE MINISTER RECEIVES CULTURAL DAYS DELEGATION

FL231301 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Petr Demichev, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR culture minister, has received the Cuban delegation headed by Armando Hart Davalos, member of the PCC Politburo and culture minister, which is visiting the Soviet Union. The delegation is visiting the USSR on the occasion of the celebration of the days of the Cuban culture from 23 January to 1 February.

During the meeting the two sides examined matters dealing with the continued development and deepening of Soviet-Cuban cooperation in the culture and arts spheres.

RAMON CASTRO TOURS ROMANIAN AGRICULTURAL CENTERS

FL232049 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1915 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] National work hero Ramon Castro Ruz, director of the Valles de Picadura livestock breeding farm located in Havana Province, today began a tour of important agricultural and cattle centers in Romania. The Cuban visitor this morning traveled to the (Adunatico Pashenin) cattle enterprise and the 30 December farm, in the locality with the same name. The 30 December farm produces vegetables from the planting through the industrial processing and has high technology greenhouses. Ramon Castro Ruz arrived in Romania on Sunday for an 8-day visit.

CUBAN JOURNALISTS VISIT KAMPUCHEA, TOUR 'TORTURE CENTERS'

FL231408 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] A group of foreign journalists, including several Cubans, are visiting the People's Republic of Kampuchea at the invitation of that Asian country's Foreign Ministry Information and Press Department. The journalistic mission also includes correspondents from the USSR, Czechoslovakia, the GDR, Hungary and Vietnam. Khang Sarin, chief of the Kampuchean capital's committee for Phnom Penh's self-administration, received the journalists.

The Kampuchean leader briefed the representatives of the foreign press on the efforts being made by the revolutionary government to achieve a rapid return to the cities by the population expelled to concentration camps by the Pol Pot and Ieng Sary regime. He expressed special gratitude to the governments and peoples of socialist countries, as well as friends throughout the world for their enthusiastic support of the Kampuchean people's just struggle.

The foreign journalists visited historic places in the capital and numerous schools which the Pol Pot and Ieng Sary regime had transformed into prisons and torture centers.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF CTC

FL231253 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC] has issued a communique on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of its founding. With the CTC, which was founded in 1939 under the leadership of beloved Lazaro Pena, the awareness of the working class was strengthened, the document states. Elsewhere, it notes that with its motivating example and with the leadership of the party and Fidel, the Cuban working class has confronted and defeated numerous actions of imperialism and its agents against the revolution and works zealously and consistently in building socialism.

After referring to the recently held 14th CTC Congress, calling it one more victory of the Cuban working class, the communique calls for paying tribute to the CTC founders by fulfilling the congress' agreements and resolutions.

ROCA ADDRESSES BOLIVAR COMMISSION PRESENTATION CEREMONY

FL231139 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The Liberator's ideas and embrace still have a lot to do in our America, Raul Roa, president of the national commemorative commission of Simon Bolivar's 200th birthday, has stated in this capital. The PCC Central Committee member and vice president of the People's Government National Assembly made a speech at the ceremony of presentation of the commission charged with the activities marking the Bolivar's 200th birthday, which will last until 24 July 1983, the date of the bicentennial.

Roa defined Bolivar as a liberator of peoples and forerunner in the anti-imperialist struggle in Latin America and said the best tribute that can be paid to his memory and to the founders of our independence is to offer them a living and militant tribute and transform their ideas into real actions.

PRESIDENT GUZMAN ANNOUNCES ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA230442 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0236 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 22 Jan (EFE)--President Antonio Guzman announced a number of economic measures tonight, the first he has adopted in this field during his 5 months in office.

The measures are aimed at improving [words indistinct] the handling of foreign exchange and its expenditure abroad for the import of luxury cars and the domestic consumption of gasoline. In a speech to the nation over radio and television, the president changed a previous decree which had increased the price of a gallon of gasoline by 14 cents. The price was increased by only 5 cents, thus setting the price at $1.09 a gallon. He also announced a 6-month prohibition on the importation of cars which cost more than $4,000. The president also ordered a substantial decrease in the cost of registering taxis. The fee dropped from $62 a year to $5. However, he announced an increase in the registration fees for private vehicles, according to their cost and passenger capacity.

President Guzman also decreed a prohibition on exemptions for private vehicles. Those exemptions have in fact been suspended since he took office. Guzman also announced that commercial banks can participate in the handling of foreign exchange which circulates in the country--constituting a parallel dollar market--signifying a heavy drain of hard currency that does not enter the official coffers of the Central Bank of the republic. [sentence as received]

Most of these measures are included in bills which will be sent to the legislative chambers. The chambers are currently in recess but special sessions will be convened for this purpose.

With these measures the chief of state is trying to stop the wave of protests resulting from a recent decree which authorized increases in the prices of gasoline and petroleum byproducts. Those increases were criticized by all sectors, including his own Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD).

Guzman had announced a review of the measures in view of the complaints. He had said that the people's interest would be borne in mind. [Words indistinct] the economic policies his government will undertake. They had been demanded by public opinion and the national press as a means to bolster the confidence of business sectors and foreign investors.

Nevertheless, the president did not refer to other subjects, such as the policy to be followed in the face of multinational companies, particularly the mining companies--including the U.S. Rosario Mining Company which exploits the gold mines--and matters related to petroleum exploration and the nationalization [as received] of those explorations. He did not touch on political subjects. At the conclusion of his speech, he said that during his visit to the shrine of the Virgin of La Altagracia in Higuey to keep a promise if he won the elections, he prayed to the people's patron saint that the country would be able to solve its problems.

Further Details

FL231344 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] President of the Republic Antonio Guzman has announced that his government will offer incentives to national industry, making it possible for it to increasingly broaden its domestic market and substantially increase its exports through a policy of reasonable prices.

In an address to the nation he made last night over a radio and television network, Silvestre Antonio Guzman Fernandez referred to the country's adverse balance of payments due to the preference given to imports over exports.

The head of state said that there was a need to reduce imports to make (?national consumption greater, which could be achieved with greater production in response to the growing demand. He said that the growth in production will make surpluses for trading abroad possible.

LABOR LEADER DENOUNCES PLOTS AGAINST GOVERNMENT

FL231328 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Dominican Workers' General Union [UGTD] Secretary General Jacinto de los Santos has stated that intrasigent social sectors of national rightwing political circles are plotting against and trying to destabilize the government of Antonio Guzman. The Dominican Revolutionary Party deputy pointed out that the burning of canefields of several state sugar mills and the attack against the Guarachita radio station by policeman Silvestre (Caba Abreu) are part of that maneuver. Jacinto de los Santos noted that such actions or any other that could be perpetrated will not be successful because the people will not allow them to flourish under any circumstances. The UGTD secretary general made the statements on the radio program "Before the People," which is produced by newsmen Rosario (Tifa) and Manuel Hernandez (Villeta) at a local radio station.

SABOTAGE OF SAN JOSE DE LOS LLANOS CANEFIELDS CONTINUES

FL222246 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 22 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Another 20 sugarcane fields were set on fire in San Jose de los Llanos [San Pedro de Macoris Province] by elements who are enemies of the public peace existing in the Dominican Republic. At the moment it is not possible to determine how many tasks have been [words indistinct]. Entire sugarcane fields have been burnt to the ground as a result of acts by the unknown vandals. (Polonio Gutierrez), supervisor of security at the State Sugar Council, has attributed the fires in the sugarcane fields which have been occurring lately to Reformist Party members whom he declined to identify. The state official indicated that he has given instructions to men under his command to see to it that the antisocial elements do not continue these disgraceful acts.

PENA GOMEZ COMMENTS ON VISIT OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

FL222322 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 22 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Today Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez stated that the visit by John Paul II to the country shows that Antonio Guzman's government has enormous international standing. In a letter to all Dominicans calling on them to make the reception of the holy father very brilliant, the leader of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] stated that never again in our lives will we be able to experience the visit of a pope. Dr Pena Gomez stated that this is an extraordinary privilege for the country, and in particular for the government, to be visited by the supreme pontiff. It has been reported that the PRD secretary general has prepared a series of statements which he will make on the occasion of the visit by John Paul II, who will arrive in the country on Thursday and will leave the following day. He stressed the Dominican Republic's privilege in being the starting point of the pope's visit to America, adding that Santo Domingo was where the standard of the cross was established, the first mass was said and where the new churches in America were built.

BAHAMAS

GOVERNOR GENERAL SIR MILO BUTLER IS DEAD

FL231711 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] It has been announced from Government House that on the occasion of the death of Sir Milo Butler flags will be flown at halfmast from government buildings and accredited establishments throughout the Commonwealth of the Bahamas from today until sunset on Monday 29th, the day of the funeral. Sir Milo died in the intensive care unit of the Princess Margaret Hospital shortly after 4 yesterday afternoon. He had been in the hospital since the 6th of this month. Plans are currently going ahead for a state funeral for Sir Milo, and as a mark of respect [words indistinct] programming accordingly.

TOURISM'S EUROPEAN HEADQUARTERS WILL MOVE TO FRANKFURT

FL191950 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Jan 79 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] The Ministry of Tourism announced yesterday that it would move its European headquarters from London to Frankfurt, Germany. The move is part of a major reorganization of the ministry's offices. It will now be organised in four market areas of the United States, as opposed to the previous eight. A fifth area will cover Canada.

The ministry says that the London headquarters will move to Frankfurt in order to make the most of the growing European market. This market will now be known simply as the European market and not the UK-European market. However, the ministry will continue to "maintain a presence" in London.

Tourism Director-General Mr Baltron Bethel said the reorganisation would ensure "better use of resources by keeping operating costs to a minimum while expanding the promotional effort."

The four areas in the United States will cover the eastern United States from New York, the southern United States from Miami, the mid-western United States from Chicago and the western United States from Los Angeles. The national manager for Canada will be in Toronto.

BARBADOS

PRIME MINISTER REPORTS INFLATION RATE RISING

FL231600 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 19 Jan 79 p 1 FL

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Tom Adams said yesterday that the island's inflation rate surged during the last few months, after moving along at a moderate pace during the first few months of 1978. Mr. Adams, addressing the annual general meeting of the Barbados Development Bank, said that the rate at the end of the last year was likely to be around nine per cent, about two percent more than was hoped.

Mr. Adams, also minister of finance and planning, noted that inflation was one of the greatest dangers to the economy. He referred to the economic projections of the United States and Britain which put inflation as the primary problem, despite the relatively high unemployment in the two countries. Mr. Adams said that his government will retain its vigilance, as it did not wish to see a return to 1973, the days of the oil crisis and high unemployment.